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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and


Senior Sanitary Inspector



1951.

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The Urban District of Eston.

Chairman of the Council :
COUNCILLOR JOHN T. COOK.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :
COUNCILLOR JOHN E. GINTY.

Committee :
Councillors Briggs, Cook, Cowie, Finegan, Gavin, Ginty, Green,
H. Healey, J. A. Healey, Hickman, Irvin, Jackson, McGee, Mead,
Metcalf, Robinson, Rowley and Young.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*** Medical Officer of Health :**
JAMES A. DUNLOP, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*** Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleaving Superintendent :**
JAMES H. BURROWS, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.San.E., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food)

*** Additional Sanitary Inspectors :**
WILLIAM VERRILL, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food).
LESLIE CORNFORTH, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food).

Clerks : NORMAN FORD.
MISS M. COLWELL.
MISS D. POWELL.

** Contributions to salary from Exchequer.*

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1951.**

To the Chairman and Members of
The Eston Urban District Council :

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health of this district for the year 1951. This is the sixteenth annual report which I have had the privilege of submitting.

With regard to the Vital Statistics for the year, I am afraid that there is very little in these over which we can become enthusiastic. It is true that there has been a slight rise in the Birth Rate but on the debit side there has been an increase in the Death Rate and a very substantial increase in the Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants in the first year of life per thousand births in the year) which has risen from 32 to 52. Last year in commenting on the very low rate (32), the lowest ever recorded in this district, I pointed out that in a relatively small community such as ours, there could be wide fluctuations in the rate without any special significance being attached to such variations. Nevertheless this increase is disappointing. It is very significant to me that in analysing the cause of these infant deaths, one finds that out of a total of 39 infants who died, 29 died from Prematurity, Broncho-pneumonia and congenital conditions. In my view, the only hope of reducing these major causes of Infantile Deaths, is by increased ante-natal care and by greater hospital provision for sick infants. I have stressed this same point in previous reports. With regard to ante-natal care in general, I feel that it is time to say that the present position in the Country is unsatisfactory, probably the result of confused planning arising from the National Health Services Act. A woman who wishes to have her child at home may go to a local ante-natal clinic (which is under the local health authority) where she may engage a suitable midwife. As she is entitled by the provisions of the National Health Services Act to engage a doctor, she may do so. The doctor is paid by the local health executive council and is required to conduct a minimum of two ante-natal examinations and one post-natal examination to earn his fee. As a result of all this, the ante-natal care may be split up between the doctor engaged for the case, the clinic and the midwife. In these circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the expectant mother "is bewildered and sometimes exasperated, and it is not always easy to convince her that all three have the same aim and are complementary."

In previous reports I have commented on the workings of the National Health Services Act. It may be suggested that since we are

not a local health authority in terms of that Act, such comment is outwith our province, but in my opinion any point concerning the health and well being of the people of this area is of concern to us. I have always been critical of the National Health Services Act for one particular reason the lack of co-operation between the three principal bodies concerned with the running of the Act—namely, the Regional Hospital Boards, the Executive Councils and the major Health Authorities. My experiences in the past year have made me no less critical. I have already referred to the confusion in the Maternity Services. I would also point out as another example of the lack of co-ordination, the difficulty in finding a place for an aged person. If the aged person is sick, he comes under the Regional Hospital Board ; if he is just aged but requires care and attention, he is the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. There are however, as we all well know, many aged people who are not sick in the sense of suffering from a definite disease but who are so infirm as to require more care than can be given by relatives at home. Such aged people are in a sort of no man's land and are wanted by no one. Anyone who has tried to place such an aged person will appreciate the difficulties and the frustrations encountered in trying to do so. Formerly, a Relieving Officer could insist on the admission to an Institution of aged people requiring care and attention—it was a retrograde step when such power was taken away. I do feel that while there is a great deal that is valuable in the National Health Services Act, much of the potential value of the Act is being lost by this lack of co-ordination. Such bodies as Regional Hospital Boards and Executive Councils suffer from the initial disadvantage of not being composed of members elected by and responsible to the electors. All Public Bodies as well as Public Officials need the stimulus of public criticism if they are to maintain their work at the highest possible standard, but unfortunately to-day the voice of democracy is being silenced by that of beaurocracy.

As in previous years, I have made such comments as I thought necessary under the various sections of the report. I would however, specially draw your attention to the very able report on Housing which Mr. Jones, our Housing Manager, has prepared for this report. I am very grateful to Mr. Jones for his willing co-operation in this respect and I feel sure that this report will be of the utmost value to all members.

I must again express my gratitude to the Members and Officials of the Council for the cordial help and support I have received from them during the year, and finally, I am most indebted to the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal and willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. DUNLOP,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Condition

of the Area.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1951 was 33,110 as compared with an estimate of population for the mid-year 1950 of 33,440.

Registrar General's estimate mid-year	1945	...	...	29,150
„ „ „ „	1946	...	...	31,010
„ „ „ „	1947	...	...	31,810
„ „ „ „	1948	...	...	32,540
„ „ „ „	1949	...	...	33,060
„ „ „ „	1950	...	...	33,440
„ „ „ „	1951	...	...	33,110

GENERAL STATISTICS.

I am indebted to the Council's Treasurer who has supplied me with the following statistics :—

Area of the District (acres)	...	...	...	5,559
Number of inhabited houses (end 1951)				
according to the Rate Books	...	...		8,930
Rateable value (September, 1951)	...	...		£149,965
Sum represented by penny rate	...	...		£567 8s. 2d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

So far as I can ascertain, there appears to be a high level of employment in the chief industries in the district, with good prospects for the future. Full employment is of great importance to the welfare of the community. Health is handicapped where there is unemployment with its resulting poverty. With regard to industrial conditions in this area, I should like to refer to the importance of Smoke Abatement. Elsewhere in this report, the Chief Sanitary Inspector will deal in more detail with this work and I have no desire to interfere with the good work he is doing. I would however, in support, stress the importance of endeavouring to abate the Smoke Nuisance. This is of the utmost importance from the point of view of health since " Statistical evidence

shows a close relation between the death rate and atmospheric conditions. The number of deaths from pulmonary and cardiac diseases is shown to increase in direct proportion to an increase in the intensity and duration of smoke fogs." But apart from health conditions, the abatement of the smoke nuisance is of such great economic importance that it seems to me to be essential to deal with this problem in a thorough manner and by a national effort. In this connection, I would point out that a former Minister of Fuel and Power recently pointed out that 82% of the potential heat and power in our coal is lost at the present time due to our wasteful methods. To reduce this loss to only 72% would save sixty million tons of coal. That sixty million tons would be a boon to industry and the export drive !

Housing continues to be a dominant social factor. The report of the Housing Manager shows that this Council realises the vital importance of the problem, and has been progressive in dealing with housing.

In my last report I referred to the problem of the aged, a problem which will grow in importance in view of our ageing population. In this connection I would like to pay tribute to the good work that is being done by the Eston Old Folks Welfare Committee. This central committee representative of all welfare movements in the area co-ordinates the work done by committees in various parts of the district. Since I have a close association with this body, I am well aware of the valuable work that is being done. I would however point out that this is a Voluntary Organisation and the extent of its work depends on the help it receives from the community in general.

Closely associated in many ways with the care of the aged is the problem of the care and after care of the sick. This duty is specifically laid on the North Riding County Council but they have wisely delegated the work to a Voluntary Care and After-care Committee and give a yearly grant to help with the after care of Tubercular cases. During the year the Care Committee assisted 41 TB. cases and 57 general medical cases, and spent £337 on TB. cases and £220 on general medical cases. This help consists largely in providing clothing and bedding but other forms of help include payment of railway fares to relatives visiting the sick in hospital, purchase of wireless licences, and at Christmas a parcel was sent to each of the 100 TB. cases in the area. This is good and valuable work but I would point out that the £220 spent on general medical cases was raised by voluntary effort . . . there is here a valuable method whereby people of good heart can voluntarily help the sick.

Once again I have to report that through my work in Schools and in the Infant Welfare Centres, I can state positively that the general health of the Infants and School children is good and that in general the standard of mothercraft is high.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births :				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	708	364	344
Illegitimate	...	...	...	45	22	23

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—22.7.

Rate for England and Wales—15.5

Still Births :—				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	20	9	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—25.9.

DEATHS.

Total	Male	Female
392	224	168

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—11.8.

Rate for England and Wales—12.5.

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	51.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			50.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			66.7
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales—29.6.			

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

The deaths which occurred during the year, divided into age groups, are as follows :—

39 deaths under one year of age.

3 „ over 1 and under 5 years.

3 „ „ 5 „ „ 10 „

— „ „ 10 „ „ 15 „

5 „ „ 15 „ „ 25 „

22 „ „ 25 „ „ 45 „

105 „ „ 45 „ „ 65 „

105 „ „ 65 „ „ 75 „

110 „ „ 75 years of age.

ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1951.

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Acute Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—	I
Prematurity	II	I	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	12
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—	I
Broncho-pneumonia	2	I	I	—	4	—	4	—	—	8
Asphyxia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	I	—	3
Congenital atelectasis	2	I	I	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Cachexia and spina bifida	—	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	I
Gastro enteritis	—	2	—	—	2	I	—	—	—	3
Congenital hydrocephalus	—	—	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	I
Congenital Meningocele & spina bifida	—	I	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	I
Pink Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	I	I
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	I
Fibrocystic disease of pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	I
Congenital fibrosis of lung	—	I	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	I
Totals	15	7	3	—	25	3	7	3	I	39

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	9
Syphilitic disease	—	1
Malignant disease (all forms)	32	20
Measles	1	—
Diabetes	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	21
Heart diseases	55	58
Other circulatory disease	8	9
Influenza	4	3
Pneumonia	9	6
Bronchitis	24	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	3
Ulcer of stomach	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	2	3
Nephritis	5	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—
Pregnancy, childbirth	—	1
Congenital malformations	5	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	27	16
Motor accidents	4	—
All other accidents	7	2
Suicide	4	—
Homicide	1	—
	<hr/> 224	<hr/> 168

An analysis of the above causes of death shows again that Heart Disease and associated conditions are the principal causes of death, with Malignant disease next on the list.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

The details of the Staff are given at the beginning of the Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The examination of pathological specimens and of samples of food etc., are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

As in the previous year, cases of Infectious Disease are taken to West Lane Fever Hospital, Middlesbrough, by ambulances provided by the North Riding County Council from their Ambulance Depot at Redcar. This service has proved itself to be a very efficient one.

For the removal of General Medical and Maternity cases, an ambulance service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade who act in this area as agents of the County Council. The Brigade provides three ambulances and one sitting case car. I am indebted to Mr. J. McCallum, Divisional Superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for the following brief report on the Ambulance Service during the year :—

“ During the year the Brigade’s ambulances have carried 9,731 patients and travelled 84,863 miles. Included in these figures are 24 Road and Street accidents, 29 Home accidents and 192 Works accidents. The work accidents were from Cargo Fleet Ironworks, Smith’s Dock and South Bank Chemical Works. (Accidents from Dorman, Long & Company’s works and I.C.I. Wilton works are conveyed in the works private ambulances).

We have tried to recruit for the National Hospital Reserve but unfortunately after giving the initial course of First Aid Training, these recruits fade away as soon as we mention having to go to the Middlesbrough General Hospital for the second part of their training.”

It is interesting to note the increasing use made of the Ambulance services. Last year the number of patients carried was 7,006 and the number of miles travelled 73,372. In 1947 the last year in which the St. John Ambulance Brigade ran a voluntary service, 761 patients were transported and the mileage was 6,710.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery Service is under the general direction of the County Council, with the day to day administration dealt with by the Eston Area Local Health Sub-Committee. The staff employed consists of 9 Midwives, 5 full-time District Nurses and 2 relief Nurses.

During the year the Midwives attended 436 births and paid in all a total number of visits of 13,908.

During the year the Home Nurses paid 21,723 visits to 478 cases.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

9 Domestic Helps are employed in the district and they have given help in 80 cases (14 maternity cases, 5 TB. cases and 61 general medical cases). The majority of the general medical cases are the aged and chronic sick.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All Clinics and Treatment Centres in the area are under the control of the North Riding County Council.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Details of the sanitary conditions in the area are dealt with in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Housing details are given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector. I am very pleased to incorporate here a special report on housing prepared by Mr. Jones, Housing Manager.

“During the year, 172 permanent dwellings were completed, the types and sites being as follows :—

	Eston Site	Church Lane Site	Hampden Street site	Grange-town (S. section)	Totals
Aged Persons' Bungalows	5	—	38	8	51
Two-bedroomed houses ...	21	5	6	1	33
Three-bedroomed houses ...	55	14	18	1	88
	81	19	62	10	172

In addition to completed new property, a number of dwellings became vacant, chiefly bungalows and houses on Lowfields Estate let to I.C.I. key workers, and during the year 239 families were rehoused. (In connection with bungalow lettings, a "family" for this purpose may be one person). Details of the various categories of these rehoused families will be found in the Housing Section of the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

By the end of 1951, the number of dwellings built by the Council had grown to 2,219 of which 861 were built since the end of the 1939-45 War. The various types of dwellings are as follows :—

		Grand Total.	Post-War Total.
		—	—
Aged Persons' Bungalows	...	213	71
2 Bedroomed houses (including temporary houses)		691	248
3 Bedroomed houses	... ..	1,249	542
4 Bedroomed houses	... ..	66	—
		—	—
		2,219	861
		—	—

As a result of the whole of the Council's post-war housing programme, 1,093 families had been rehoused by the end of 1951.

The number of registered applicants without a home of their own continues to be about 1,000.

Progress continues to be made in rehousing families living in over-crowded conditions in separate dwellings. The problem of families who in total do not equal the permitted number of the dwelling but who have children of different sex requiring separate bedroom accommodation still remains."

SECTION E.

Meat and other Foods.

This is dealt with by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

So far as Infectious Diseases are concerned, the most noticeable difference from the previous year has been the very considerable increase in the number of cases of Measles—732 as compared with 113. I am pleased to draw your attention to the fact that no case of Diphtheria occurred during the year. This is the second year in succession in which the district has been completely free from Diphtheria.

Infectious Diseases amongst children in the area :—

SCARLET FEVER :	20 cases occurred in children under 5 years and 24 amongst school children.
MEASLES :	530 cases occurred in children under 5 years and 202 amongst school children.
WHOOPING COUGH :	68 cases occurred in children under 5 years and 25 amongst school children.
DIPHTHERIA :	There were no cases in the area during 1951.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

764 children were immunised for the first time during the year.
684 school children received a reinforcing dose.

Immunisation position in the area at the end of year :

Infants :

Of 3,413 children under 5 years, 2,271 or 66% (61%) were immunised.

Of 2,774 children aged 1—5 years, 2,219 or 80% (74%) were immunised.

In the vast majority of cases, children are brought for the first immunisation just after their first birthday.

School children :

Of 5,613 children on the school registers on 31.12.51, 5,538 or 95% (95%) were immunised.

Of 5,613 children on the school registers on 31.12.51, 4,318 or 77% (70%) had a reinforcing dose.

The figures in brackets indicate the position in the previous year, so that we can claim to have strengthened slightly the immunisation state during the year, especially with regard to reinforcing doses.

Number of cases of Diphtheria in District in past 9 years :

1943 ...	...	...	49
1944 ...	...	...	44
1945 ...	...	...	24
1946 ...	...	...	14
1947 ...	...	...	5
1948 ...	...	...	2
1949 ...	...	...	1
1950 ...	...	...	Nil.
1951 ...	...	...	Nil.

The two most important factors that emerge from the above figures are (1) There are roughly 9,000 children in this area and of these 7,800 or 86% have been immunised ; (2) No cases of Diphtheria have occurred in this district for 2 years. These facts are very gratifying and it is a pleasure to put them on record. At the same time we can also read from these figures that there are 1,200 children in the area who have not been immunised. When one considers that in 1943 we had 49 cases of Diphtheria, 5 of which proved fatal, whereas in the last 2 years we have had no cases, one would expect that this proof of the value of immunising would convince all parents. It is therefore difficult to understand why the parents of 1,200 children have refused to have this protection for their children. The success we have had in our Immunising Campaign is largely due to the continued efforts of the Health Visitors with in the case of the school children, the very active support of the Head Teachers in the area.

ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) IN AGE GROUPS.

Disease	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED															TOTAL DEATHS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
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NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WARDS.

WARD	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Pneu- monia	Menin- gococcal Infect- ion	Polio- myelitis	Erysip- elas	Dysent- ery	Puer- peral Pyrexia	Ophthal- mia neona- torum
North West	105	5	13	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
Grangetown	8	9	1	1	...	2	...	2	...	...
Normanby	84	10	18	7	1	2	...	...	...	...
Harcourt	70	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Branch ...	105	1	14	4	...	...	...	1	1	...
Central ...	120	12	7	6	1	1	3	2	1	...
South Bank	100	6	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tilery ...	140	1	28	5	...	1	...	...	1	1
Total	732	46	92	29	2	6	4	5	3	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year and of all deaths from this disease are shown in the following table in age groups :—

Age Groups	CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and 5 years	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and 10 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 and 15 years	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and 20 years	1	8	—	—	—	1	—	—
20 and 25 years	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 and 35 years	3	3	—	—	1	2	—	—
35 and 45 years	3	5	—	—	1	3	—	—
45 and 55 years	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 and 65 years	4	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	18	27	—	—	4	9	—	—

The total number of cases notified shows an increase of 10 as compared with 1950. The deaths from this cause show a decrease of 7 as compared with 1950.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Eston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure and honour to submit to you the Annual Report of the Sanitary and Cleansing Department for the year, 1951.

Works of housing repair continued to provide a large part of the Department's duties although true satisfaction could not be obtained owing to the still evident shortages existing in certain building materials and the fact that certain of the sub-standard properties in the District were continuously needing the execution of first aid repairs which in my opinion are a waste of money and valuable materials when used on this type of property. Re-housing of the occupants and demolition of these properties would prove to be the best solution to this problem and the near future should see the commencement of Clearance Area procedure within your District.

Regular visits to Food Shops and Preparation Rooms were carried out during the year and Food sampling was regularly maintained.

Atmospheric Pollution data was obtained in your District throughout the year and your Authority proved to be active members of the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee which body is collating evidence relative to Pollution over the whole of the Tees-Side Area.

A weekly collection of refuse and salvage was effected during the year. Salvaged waste paper prices soared to a high level and the policy of your Authority in keeping the scheme of collections in vogue when prices were at their lowest ebb has proved to be justified by the financial return obtained from the sales of these materials during the year.

The various duties performed in the Department are fully described under the respective headings and in conclusion I would like to express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and other Departmental Officials for their cordial co-operation in all matters affecting the Department. My thanks are likewise extended to the Staff and Workmen for their loyalty during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. BURROWS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ...	179
(b)	(1) For Local Authority —Permanent ...	172
	(2) —Temporary ...	nil
	(3) Other than Local Authority ...	7

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	1,994
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	3,735
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1,994

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	1,907
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
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(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	... .. nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	... .. nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... .. 63
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	... .. 59
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	... .. nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... .. nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... .. nil
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... .. nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	... .. nil
4.	Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding :—	

No post-war overcrowding survey has been carried out, thus no true record is available as to the present overcrowding position. However, this Department has maintained close liaison with that of the Housing Department and all applications for Council Houses which appear to be overcrowded are investigated and reported upon by the Department.

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following information :

During the year approximately 388 applications were received by your Authority for Council Houses and records of lettings were as follows :—

Sub-tenants (Ex-Service)	...	87
(Non Ex-Service)	... ..	26
Overcrowded families	... ..	36
Tuberculosis in family	... ..	20
Aged Persons	... ..	61
I.C.I. Key Workers and Dollar		
Export Workers	... ..	7
Special cases including staff	... ..	2
		<hr/>
Total	... ..	239
		<hr/>

WATER.

Water is obtained in bulk from the undertaking of the Tees Valley Water Board who through the medium of their own staff obtain regular samples for both chemical and bacteriological analyses. A summary of these results for the year, 1951 has been obtained from the General Manager of the undertaking and to whom I desire to express my thanks.

Details of the summarised report are as follows.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Eight bacteriological samples of raw water were examined per month. The water supply is tested as it leaves the works and also at points in the area.

Approximately 55 samples were taken for bacteriological examination per month, all of which were satisfactory.

The water supply is not liable to have Plumbo Solvent action.

The water is purified by slow sand filtration followed by treatment with ammonia and chlorine. Water which has been in open storage reservoirs is also chlorinated before passing into supply.

The following is a summary of the results of chemical and bacteriological analyses.

LARTINGTON GRAVITATION SUPPLY.

Summary of Results 1951.

Odour Nil.

Chemical Results expressed as parts per million.

			Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.
pH.	...	...	7.1	7.3	6.9
Colour (Hazen)	...	...	75	120	40
Total Solids	...	...	80	95	60
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	3	7	Trace
Chlorides	...	...	5.5	7	5
Total Alkalinity	...	...	33	45	25
Total Hardness	...	...	48	60	35
Temporary Hardness (Carbonate Hardness)	...	...	33	45	25
Permanent Hardness (Non-carbonate Hardness)	...	...	15	20	5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	...	0.1	0.6	nil.
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	...	0.01	0.01	nil.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	0.055	0.170	nil.
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	0.070	0.130	0.030
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	6.3	9.9	3.3
Iron	...	...	0.15	0.24	0.07
Conductivity	...	...	105	130	80
Turbidity	...	...	3	3	nil.

Bacteriological Results.

			Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.
Colony count per ml. at 37° C after 1 day.			6	16	nil.
Colony count per ml. at 37° C after 2 days	...	...	9	19	2
Colony count per ml. at 20° C after 3 days.			7	36	2
Percentage of samples giving a Presumptive Coliform reaction per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 100 ml.	...	...	...	...	38
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 10 ml.	...	...	...	...	nil.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The district is riparian in character, public sewers discharging into the tidal flow of the River Tees. The "New Trunk Sewer Scheme" did not become effective during the year but was still under negotiation between Ministry and all other interested bodies. There is no doubt that when this scheme be put into effect vast improvement both in relation to the condition of the discharged effluent and the present sewerage arrangements will result.

All premises in the District with the exception of nine (9) Squatters' Huts at Teesport and three (3) outlying farmsteads are drained on the water carriage system.

DITCHES AND WATER-COURSES.

Fourteen (14) visits were entailed relative to complaints received regarding obstruction and pollution of streams. In most cases the work of obstruction was referred to the Department of your Engineer and Surveyor for attention.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

With the exception of Squatters' Huts at Teesport and a few outlying farmsteads all premises within your district are provided with water closets connected to sewers. The Squatters' Huts at Teesport are provided with pail closets which are serviced weekly by the Department.

There are approximately 8,923 water closets in the District.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a tabulated statement of the number and nature of the inspections carried out during the year under the various Acts, Orders and Bye-laws in force within the District :—

Inspections under Public Health Act, etc.	...	...	...	1,814
Re-inspections under above relative to Houses	...	...	...	1,738
Interviews with Builders, Owners and others...	...	...	...	1,495
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	506

Inspection of :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	18
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	13
Butchers' Shops, Slaughterhouses and Distributing Depot	...	...	...	...	...	104
Markets and Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	419
Fish and Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	73
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	107
Works of Building operations	...	...	...	...	...	17
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Halls and other Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	18
Conveniences (Public)	...	...	...	...	...	54
Rat Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1,416
Verminous and filthy Premises	...	...	...	...	...	244
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	163
Fumigations	...	...	...	...	...	131
Drain Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	468
Registered Preparation Rooms—Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	96
Scavenging, Cleansing and Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	816
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	6
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	43
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	22
Miscellaneous Visits not enumerated above	...	...	...	...	...	735

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER NOTICES SERVED.

The various works completed during the year under notices served or on intimation to owners or occupiers are as appended below :—

House and General.

Number of :—

Chimney and Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	468
Spoutings and rainwater pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	454
Walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	259
Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	78
Ceilings and wall-plasters repaired	...	...	...	...	466
Window frames and sash cords repaired	...	...	...	...	186
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	164
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	311
Sinks and waste pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	191
Setpots repaired	...	...	...	...	21
House water supplies repaired	...	...	...	...	56
Yard surfaces relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Refuse bins renewed	...	...	...	...	239
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Premises Cleansed and Redecorated	...	...	...	...	15
Accumulations of Rubbish removed	...	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

House Drainage.

Drains tested, relaid or repaired	...	...	...	294
New gullies, traps or grids provided	...	...	...	34
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	92
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	1,129

Water Closets.

Number of:—

Additional Accommodation Provided	...	...	...	7
Water supplies repaired	...	...	...	505
Cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	288
Basins renewed	...	...	...	41
Seats renewed	...	...	...	162
Flush pipes renewed	...	...	...	13
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	50
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	197

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in use within this District.

COMPLAINTS.

The various types of complaints received by the Department during the year are tabulated as shown. It will be noted that the majority related to housing defects, which, after inspection and follow-up entailed a major portion of each Sanitary Inspectors' time. To obtain a true picture of the amount of housing repairs completed at the instigation of the Department I would suggest that the Summary of Works Carried Out under Notices Served, be studied in conjunction with the table as shown hereunder.

Drain stoppages	...	...	...	...	198
Housing defects	...	...	...	...	369
Dilapidated Refuse Bins	...	...	...	...	173
Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	17
Rat and/or Mice infestations	...	...	...	...	115
Accumulations of Refuse	...	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	86

The total of 1,236 drain stoppages occurring at private premises were cleared by the Department's workmen by means of plunging, so avoiding the necessity of serving notices and also abating this type of objectionable nuisance expeditiously.

SHOPS.

276 visits were made to shop premises in your District during the year. No infringements relative to Sunday trading and closing were observed and all shops in the District were informed by leaflets as to the requirements of closing hours.

At fourteen (14) premises notices were complied relative to works of cleansing and redecorating and at forty seven (47) foodshops washing facilities including hot and cold water supplies on tap were installed for the use of assistants.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Monthly readings from "Standard Deposit Gauge Apparatus" were obtained at five sites in your District throughout the year. "Short Analysis" results were obtained and I have quoted in table form, the average of the monthly readings taken for the 12 months period ending 31st December, 1951.

STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES.

Monthly averages for period ending 31st December, 1951.

Site	P.H.	Undissolved Matter (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Dissolved Matter (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Total Deposited (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Rainfall (Inches)
Cleveland House, Grangetown ...	6.35	51.68	10.9	62.58	2.4
Lanny's, Grangetown ...	6.39	13.56	10.81	24.37	2.17
Labour Exchange, South Bank ...	6.35	28.84	13.15	41.99	2.51
St. Peter's Modern School, South Bank ...	6.16	12.89	8.31	21.21	2.48
Crossbeck Convent, Normanby ...	6.17	9.95	7.7	17.65	2.69

The major part of industrial pollution occurring in your District arises from the Iron and Steel Works which are exempted from control under present legislation. The Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee expressed to the various Local Authorities that as a means of obtaining more specific proof as to the nature of the deposits your Authority should obtain data as to the presence of Iron Oxide as Fe_2O_3 . This analysis was carried out for the month of March, 1951 the results indicating that Iron Oxide (Fe_2O_3) was present in all gauges throughout the District as follows :—

Iron Oxide as Fe_2O_3 in undissolved matter Tons per sq. Mile :

Cleveland House, Grangetown	...	...	10.82
Lanny's, Grangetown	...	...	4.75
Labour Exchange, South Bank	...	...	11.64
St. Peter's Modern School, South Bank	...		3.91
Crossbeck Convent, Normanby	...	...	2.70

The evidence collected by all member Authorities of the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee is now becoming available for use in negotiation with the various firms concerned relative to endeavouring to effect improvement by co-operative discussions. However, the policy of the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee, cannot in fairness, be described in this report but is mentioned owing to your Authority's active interest in this body and the need for improvement in the condition of the atmosphere in your District.

During the year readings in regard to emissions from Factory Chimneys were obtained on six occasions and after negotiation, improvement was effected in each case.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licenced sites for this type of dwelling in your District. During the year twelve (12) inspections were made relative to living vans sited in the District and in all cases, with the exception of one in which a six months period licence was granted authorising the use of the van, the living vans were sited for short duration and no action was deemed to be necessary. It is common during the summer months for Travelling Hawkers of the Gypsy type to set up camp in the woods adjoining Flatts Lane, these people are in general most untidy and experience in this area is that they leave the site after a visit from an inspector but in all cases grace the countryside with litter and tins. However I suppose this problem is common to people of this type and it is the aim of the Department to visit them whenever they are within the District.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no Public Swimming Baths and Pools situated in the District although I would suggest that there is a demand for such from the youth of the Area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, FLEAS AND COCKROACHES.

During the year close liaison was maintained between the Housing and Health Departments relative to proposed lettings of Council Houses. The houses of all pre-selected Council tenants were visited and inspected for the existence of dirty and verminous conditions. Any such premises found were reported upon to the appropriate Committee and the tenant of same was offered the services of the Department relative to disinfestation and opportunity was given by delayed offer of Council House tenancy for the tenant concerned to show his or her ability in clean housekeeping.

244 visits were made by members of the staff relative to investigating home conditions of prospective Council House tenants and in all 37 houses were treated for the eradication of vermin.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Refuse Collection.

A weekly collection of house refuse was steadily maintained throughout the year. Six motor vehicles comprised of 3 Karrier C.K.3. each (12 cub. yd. capacity) and 3 Karrier Bantams (7 cub. yd. capacity) are employed on this work, one of the Bantams being kept in reserve as a spare vehicle, the work in the main being carried out by the five remaining vehicles. The three larger vehicles are of post-war design whilst the three Karrier Bantams are old but are with regular maintenance and attendance as yet quite useful for dealing with collections from those properties in the congested parts of the area requiring short haul.

The average number of refuse bins collected per week during the year was 9,669. This figure is increased above that of last year due to the addition of 179 new houses. The number of loads of refuse removed to the tip during the year was 4,212 which is the equivalent of approximately 8,372 tons.

The annual cost of Refuse Collection work for the financial year ending 31st March, 1952 was £9,171 which is the equivalent of £1 1s. 10³/₄d. per ton of refuse collected. This is an increase of approximately 2s. 1d. per ton over and above the figure quoted for collection in my 1950 report and is accounted for due to increases in wages of workmen and fuel.

The annual costs of repairs and renewals to vehicles amounted to £307 which is an economical amount considering present day costs of both labour and materials. The Department carry out their own vehicle repairs, and this is important towards the efficient working of a Cleansing Department as a broken vehicle can be given immediate attention and returned to the road without delay so avoiding those complaints which do arrive in the office when regular weekly collection is not maintained.

Labour was not good to keep. During the year a number of workmen left to take up more remunerative posts in local firms who in the main could offer regular overtime with resultant increased pay packet.

For your information I have itemised the lost time and costs due to sickness of workmen of the Department for this year and for comparison, I have indicated in brackets the lost time and costs due to sickness payments for the year 1950.

Sick pay.		Absence.
Days.	Amount.	Days.
512	£393 5s. 1d.	122
(976)	(£587 2s. 3d.)	(123)

Refuse Disposal.

All refuse collected in your District was disposed of by means of “ Controlled Tipping ” at the Surrey Street Refuse Tip. The “ Clay Hole ” which was prior to commencement of tipping in the form of a deep stagnant pond, is now, fast becoming a useful piece of reclaimed land. Tipping facilities are available on this site for many years but refuse filling fast exceeds the rate of clay excavation and cessation of tipping on the site for two or three years would be advantageous to all concerned. It is with this in mind that two further land reclamation projects may be commenced in the near future.

The Muledozer continued to give most useful service on the Refuse Tip in relation to spreading, trimming and consolidating and covering of refuse. The machine was procured in October, 1949 and has given continuous service with very little mechanical trouble. The employment of the machine on the tip has very much simplified the work when compared with the period manual labour was the only means employed. Costs of disposal proved to be most economical. For the financial year ending 31st March, 1952 they amounted to £698 the equivalent of 1s. 8d. per ton. This economic figure can in the main be attributed to the employment of mechanical means of disposal.

Salvage.

This service is worked in conjunction with that of Refuse Collection. During each visit to a household, salvage is collected by the workmen at the same time as house refuse. The salvage is conveyed in trailers connected to each refuse vehicle to the North Street Depot, here sorting takes place and paper is baled and stored before despatch. Your Authority have a contract with Messrs. Thames Board Mills Ltd., to whom all salvaged paper is consigned.

Collections of waste paper, kitchen waste and other materials was maintained throughout the year details of which are appended herewith.

The weight and values of the various materials salvaged during the year ending 31st March, 1952, were :—

Materials			Weight				Values.		
			T.	C.	Qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	...	...	186	10	2	—	2,800	13	6
Bottles & Jars		...					14	0	10
Textiles	...	...	23	12	3	7	507	7	1
Non-Ferrous Metals	...		1	17	—	9	169	4	2
Kitchen Waste		...	31	11	—	—	91	1	3
Scrap Iron and Unbaled Tins	...		11	5	1	—	21	14	3
			254	16	2	16	£3,604	1	1

It will be noted that waste paper continued to be the largest item of salvage obtained during the year and although the total tonnage of this material collected was very little above that of the previous year prices obtained for same increased by almost 150%. A goodly return was also obtained for sales of textiles and non-ferrous metals.

The total income from the sales of salvaged materials for the financial year ending 31st March, 1952 amounted to £3,604 1s. 1d. of which £2,800 13s. 6d. was obtained from sales of salvaged waste paper.

The workmen continued to be paid incentive bonus relative to salvage, this amounted to 20% of the total value of sales divided *pro rata* amongst all those employed on the work.

Street Sweeping.

During the year this work was carried out by manual labour organised on the "Beat System." The long awaited delivery of the Street Sweeper/Collector Machine did not take place hence no change in policy could be enforced. Labour in this District is not attracted to this type of work and because of this, a certain amount of neglect did take place. However, without having obtained delivery of the Street Sweeper/Collector Machine and being unable to obtain suitable labour a modified "Gang System" was put into effect for periodical sweeping of the major County Roads. The gradual expansion of Council Housing Estates has increased the mileage of street sweeping to approximately 72 miles of which approximately 22 miles are back streets. Difficulty is still experienced in the sweeping and cleansing of those back streets which still retain brick air-raid shelters. These buildings are a continuous source of trouble to the Department insofar that rubbish is dumped therein by irresponsible people, they are dark and ill-lit and without regular attendance by the Department would soon become foul smelling and dirty. It is rather a pity that the present international situation is such that the Ministry cannot see their way to grant permission for demolition of these Buildings to be recommenced. Insofar as the Department is concerned they are a hindrance both to the works of proper street sweeping and efficient refuse collection.

The cost of street sweeping work for the financial year ending 31st March, 1952 was £5,835 part of which is recoverable from the County Council.

Gulley Cleaning.

This work is carried out by means of Motor Gulley Emptier. The efficiency of the machine necessitates that each gulley is serviced every eight weeks. The number of street gullies cleansed during the year was 4,981 and cost involved for the financial year ending, 31st March, 1952 was £443, part of which is recoverable from the County Council.

Sewer Flushing.

This work is carried out most expeditiously with the aid of the Motor Gulley Emptier. The machine has a capacity of 750 gallons and can be readily available in case of emergency.

Snow Removal and Gritting.

No snow removal was necessitated during the year although a number of hard frosts required that gritting of the main traffic roads be put into effect. The new gritting machine which was obtained during the year proved to be a valuable asset in this work. The expenditure involved amounted to £124 the majority of which is recoverable as being applied to work on County Roads for which your Authority are reimbursed by the North Riding County Council.

FACTORIES.

124 visits of inspection were made to Factories within your District and at 9 Factories defects were found to exist, these being remedied after service of intimation notices. Industrial development occurring in your area entailed visits to Engineering and Building Sites relative to the provision of Sanitary Accommodation for those employed thereon.

A copy of Form 572 Factories Act, 1937 and 1948 is appended herewith.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
in respect of the year 1951 for the Urban District of Eston in the
County of Yorkshire.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by local Authorities	15	45	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	62	5	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	11	17	4	—
Total ...	91	124	9	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned at two three or more "cases".)

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	I	I	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	5	4	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	9	7	—	6	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.
OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

There was a NIL return in respect of OUTWORK for the year.

SECTION E.

Meat and other Foods.

English meat supplied to your District continues to be slaughtered and dressed in one of the Ministry of Food Controlled Slaughter houses situated in the adjoining County Borough. English and Imported meats are then allocated to your District for distribution to the local butchers via the South Bank Distributing Depot. My own opinion is that meat under present means of distribution is rather over handled and the provision of a local Abattoir in the Eston District would best serve the needs of local butchers and at the same time inspection could be carried out by the experienced and qualified members of your own Health Department staff.

104 visits were made by the staff relative to Meat Inspection at Butchers' Shops and the South Bank Distributing Depot. A tabulated list of condemned meats and other foods is appended herewith :—

Imported Beef	...	...	...	23 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	326 lbs.
Cooked Ham	...	...	...	230 lbs.
Fresh Fruit	...	...	...	60 lbs.
Brawn, etc.	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	96 lbs.
Fish—wet	...	...	...	33 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	102 tins
„ Preserves	...	...	...	3 tins
„ Vegetables	...	...	...	131 tins
„ Meats	...	...	...	120 tins
„ Corned Beef	...	...	...	25 tins
„ Milk	...	...	...	41 tins
Sauce	...	...	...	3 bottles
Pickles	...	...	...	38 jars

The approximate amounts of meat, exclusive of offals dealt with at the South Bank Distributing Depot during the year was :—

Home Killed :				Imported :			
Sides of Beef	...	2,550		Quarters of Beef	...	584	
Calves	...	45		Calves	...	—	
Pigs	...	322		Pigs	...	58	
Sheep and Lambs	...	4,053		Sheep and Lambs	...	4,751	

Other Imported and Tinned Meats :

Pork Joints	...	...	...	2,802 lbs.
Beef	...	...	...	5,308 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	1,486 lbs.
Corned Meats	...	...	...	112,094 lbs.

44 Self Suppliers' Pigs slaughtered under Ministry of Food licences were examined by the Staff of the Department.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of Slaughtermen's Licences issued during the year was 22. Whilst there was no regular slaughtering taking place within the district, these slaughtermen had acquired licences relative to the slaughtering and dressing of Self Suppliers' Pigs.

Registered Food Preparation Rooms.

There are 26 premises registered with your Authority for the purpose of preparation of foodstuffs intended for sale. In all, 96 visits were made to these premises throughout the year and at 20 places works of repair and cleansing and redecorating were carried out on verbal intimation being given to the persons concerned. In no case was it found necessary to resort to Statutory action.

There are seven restaurant kitchens in the District five of them being attached to Works' canteens. All were visited periodically throughout the year and found to be well maintained.

Food Stores and Markets.

492 visits of inspection were paid to Markets and Food Stores during the year. As a result of the Food Hygiene Campaign carried out in the latter half of 1950 all premises manufacturing, selling or storing foodstuffs for the purpose of sale and found not to comply with the requirements of the Food and Drugs legislation were brought up to standard. In all 47 premises were provided with hot and cold water supplies for the purpose of washing facilities, 14 premises were cleansed and redecorated and 6 works of structural character were carried out. It can now be stated that all food premises within this District have been brought up to a satisfactory standard regarding washing facilities, sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness. Routine inspection will I hope maintain these standards in being.

The weekly market at South Bank continued to flourish. Takings during the year for stall lettings amounted to £545 8s. od. Certain of the market stallholders approached your Authority towards the end of the year regarding the holding of a Monday market in Grange-town Market Square. This did not prove to be a successful venture and ceased after running for seventeen weeks. There appears to be a demand for a small market to be held in the Square at Grange-town each Saturday. This is comprised of about half a dozen stalls, mainly vegetables and fruit and has been held weekly throughout the year.

Bakehouses.

There are 11 Bakehouses registered with your Authority. 18 visits of inspection were carried out during the year and at 5 premises works of cleansing and redecorating were found to be necessary and were completed satisfactorily on intimation notices being given. The remaining Bakehouses were on inspection found to be satisfactory in all respects.

Fish Shops.

73 visits were made to Fish Frying premises in your District. In all there are 30 such premises situated in the area and during the year it was deemed to be necessary to serve notices at 8 premises in regard to works of cleansing and redecorating which work was complied on informal action whilst at 3 premises the hot water supply for the purpose of washing facilities was found to be inadequate and was subsequently remedied by the provision at each premises of a hot water geyser.

Ice Cream.

At the end of the year a total of 77 premises were registered with your Authority. Of these registrations 7 concerned manufacturers whilst the remainder were relative to premises registered for sale and storage of the commodity only. In the case of shop premises of the "General Dealer" type it was recommended that a condition of registration be that the commodity be sold "Prepacked." The selling of Ice Cream from shop premises of the "General Dealer Type" and in which is installed a refrigerator for storage purposes and proper washing facilities for the use of those employed about the business is in my opinion much to be preferred to the practice of sale by the Street Vendor, who in the majority of cases sells loose Ice Cream and has no proper facilities for either cleansing of equipment or personal hygiene.

The majority of vendors in the District are supplied with Ice Cream from a limited number of wholesale manufacturers with registered premises situated outside your District. During the year 20 samples were obtained and submitted for Bacteriological Analysis, results being as follows :—

17 samples	...	Provisional Grade 1.
1 sample	...	Provisional Grade 2.
2 samples	...	Provisional Grade 3.
— samples	...	Provisional Grade 4.

Public Houses and Clubs.

As a continuance to the "Food Hygiene Campaign" of 1950 a survey of Public Houses and Licenced Clubs was carried out during the year. Attention in the main was focussed on sanitary accommodation, glass washing facilities, beer storage, cleanliness of pipe lines. The sanitary accommodation in some of the older Public Houses was found to be totally inadequate insofar as female patrons were concerned. It was most noticeable that all the Public Houses 30 in number catered for both sexes.

In the case of glass washing facilities 8 houses were found to be inadequate insofar that hot water on tap was not provided above the Bar Sink. A few minor items of disrepair were noted relative to Beer Storage accommodation whilst in relation to Beer Pipes these were found in all cases except one to be of “ Staybrite Steel ” construction which can be easily and readily disconnected for cleansing purposes. All houses were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition of general cleanliness. In relation to the defects found, the firms concerned were communicated with and the undermentioned work was completed during the year :—

	Public Houses.	Licenced Clubs.
Sanitary accommodation improved ...	7	4
Beer Cellar repaired and redecorated ...	4	6
Glass washing facilities improved ...	4	7

In relation to Licenced Club Premises it is rather doubtful whether these premises can be controlled by present Food and Drugs legislation. But it is my pleasure to record that in no case was entry for the purpose of inspection refused and the advice tendered by the Department was accepted in the true sense, as to be of benefit to the members of the Club concerned. For the purpose of record it may be stated that the survey revealed that there are 14 Clubs within this District and 7 of these cater for both sexes. Glass washing facilities were unsatisfactory at 7 of the Clubs whilst at 2 of the Clubs catering for both males and females, the sanitary accommodation was inadequate. These findings were conveyed to the Club managements who readily co-operated and had the works of improvement complied before the termination of the year.

MILK SUPPLY.

Dairies and Distributors.

There are 7 dairies and 21 Distributors registered with your Authority. The number of Distributors registered increased during the year and in the main is due to General Dealers desiring to sell bottled milks supplied as such by registered Dairymen. The majority of milk consumed in the District is “ Pasteurised ” a small quantity of “ Sterilised ” milk is retailed and raw milk is retailed by the 4 producers with farms in the District. 3 of these Producers sell Ungraded milk whilst one retails “ Tuberculin Tested,” farm bottled milk.

A summary of Special Designated Licences issued during the year is appended herewith :—

17 Dealers' Licences in relation to Pasteurised Milk.

11 „ „ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk.

17 „ „ „ Sterilised Milk.

4 Supplementary Licences in relation to Pasteurised Milk.

4 „ „ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk.

3 „ „ „ Sterilised Milk.

Milk Sampling.

34 informal samples were obtained and tested in the Department for Chemical Analysis. The highest fat content recorded was 5.1% whilst the lowest was 3.0% the average fat content of all samples being 3.7%. None of the samples recorded a " Solids not Fat " reading of less than 8.5%.

As your Authority are not a Food and Drugs Authority I feel that the practice of sampling informally must be continued until such time as these powers be obtained, otherwise no information would be to hand as to the chemical standard of the milks consumed by the public in your area.

During the year 43 Bacteriological samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for Analysis. Details of results are tabled below :—

Total No. of Samples	Designation of Sample	Analysis Result.	
		Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory.
13	Ungraded Milk	11	2
12	Tuberculin Tested Milk	10	2
12	Pasteurised Milk	12	—
3	Pasteurised School Milk	3	—
3	Sterilised Milk	3	—

One sample of Pasteurised School Milk found to be improperly pasteurised was submitted for Biological Analysis and certified as being free from the presence of Tuberculosis organisms.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Your Authority continued to employ a Rodent Operator on a part-time basis. The person concerned is always available in case of an emergency arising and the scheme is functioning satisfactorily in your District. In all 340 private premises and 58 business premises were treated during the year. The former is not regarded by your Authority as being chargeable to owners and occupiers, but is part recovered by block grant claimed from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the Fiscal Year ending 31st March, 1952, two maintenance treatments were given to the Public Sewers in your District. In this operation each manhole was pre-baited twice on successive days followed by poison baiting. In all approximately 560 manholes were treated during each treatment. This work also ranks for financial assistance and is included for claim in "Block Grant" as previously mentioned.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION.

248 visits were made in connection with Infectious Diseases Prevention. The homes of all notified cases were visited and terminal disinfection was carried out after removal of the infected person or in the case of home treated patient, after certification of fitness of patient was received from the Private Practitioner.

The undermentioned is an analysis of the premises disinfected during the year.

Houses.	Rooms.	Cause.
44	94	Scarlet Fever.
1	5	Suspected Diphtheria (proved negative).
3	9	Meningitis.
18	34	Tuberculosis.
13	31	Other medical causes.
<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total 79	173	
<hr/>	<hr/>	

